

**CITY OF MORGANTON
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY**

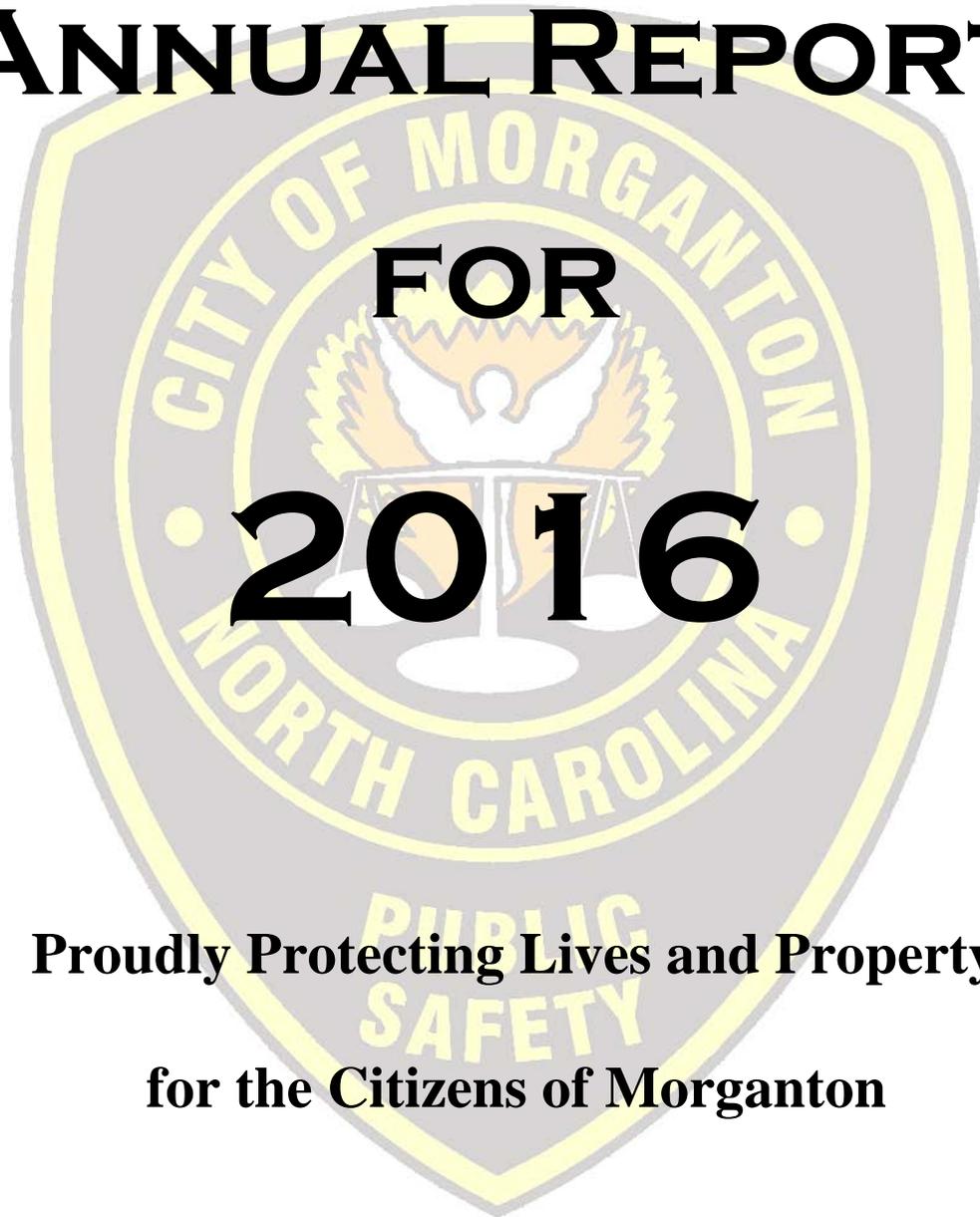


ANNUAL REPORT

FOR

2016

**Proudly Protecting Lives and Property
for the Citizens of Morganton**





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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



On behalf of the dedicated men and women of the Morganton Department of Public Safety I am honored to present our 2016 Annual Report. We are pleased to provide our partners and community members with the opportunity to learn about our agency's work and revisit some important activities from the past year.

The Morganton Department of Public Safety remains committed to the foundational principals of building trust and nurturing legitimacy. This is accomplished through building good relationships and treating people with dignity and respect. Partnerships, planning and advancement continue to be the key components of our foundational principals. The citizens of Morganton desire and deserve professionalism, equal treatment, transparency and a well-trained diverse workforce representing our community. Additionally, citizens desire a law enforcement workforce with a guardian mindset and a strong emphasis on community.

Our values of Integrity, Professionalism, Honor, Accountability, Respect and Equality guide our decision making as we work to enhance safety and quality of life in the City of Morganton. We are committed to active community involvement, quality training and collaborative partnerships. This commitment enables us to provide a safe and stable environment for all of those who live, work, play and visit our community. I am proud to say that again in 2016 the City of Morganton was recognized by The Safe Wise Report as one of the 100 safest cities in North Carolina.

Community Partnerships is the foundation that leads to trust and ultimately to a reduction in crime within our neighborhoods. It is paramount that our Departmental leaders and community leaders pursue avenues that allow two-way communication, transparency, collaboration and relationship building. At Public Safety we continually engage with our community in various capacities and levels throughout the year. We are proud of all of our community activities but this past year we are especially proud of our fund raising efforts for Breast Cancer Awareness / Diagnoses, Sanctuary Safety Workshops, Coffee with a Cop, Operation Blue Elves and Operation Safe Haven (DARE Camp).

I am proud of the members of the Morganton Department of Public Safety. They remain vigilant and engaged in the constant endeavor of improving the quality of life for our citizens. In the coming year we will continue to explore and consider advancements in policing and firefighting strategies. We are honored to serve the citizens of Morganton by delivering the highest standard of law enforcement, fire services and customer service.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ronnie D. Rector".

Ronnie D. Rector
Director of Public Safety

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Mission Statement

Our Mission:

We, the members of the Morganton Department of Public Safety, are committed to protect the lives, property, and Constitutional Rights of all residents and visitors of OUR community by providing professional law enforcement and fire protection services.

Our Values:

- ♣ **Integrity:** High ethical standards, honesty and fairness
- ♣ **Professionalism:** Individual excellence, education and training
- ♣ **Honor:** Official dignity, repute, and esteem
- ♣ **Accountability:** To take responsibility for all actions and decisions
- ♣ **Respect:** Treating others as you would like to be treated
- ♣ **Equality:** Fair, impartial, and equitable treatment of all people

Our Vision:

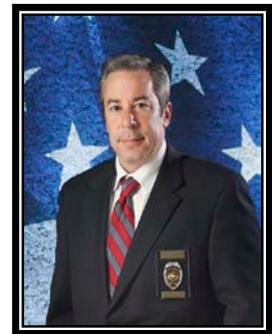
The *Morganton Department of Public Safety* strives to be a leader in the delivery of public safety services which combines law enforcement and fire protection. Our employees strive to be leaders in OUR community in name and deed conducting themselves in a manner to which others will aspire.

Retirements

The Morganton Department of Public Safety proudly recognizes the retirement of the following employees in 2016. Upon their retirement the City of Morganton and the Department of Public Safety offer our sincere appreciation for dedicated and exemplary service:



Major Billy Bradshaw
Effective March 1, 2016
27 years of service



Captain Joe Blumetti
Effective May 1, 2016
21 years of service



Sergeant Tico Moss
Effective December 31, 2016
13 years of service



PSO Sherry Hunt
Effective October 17, 2016
18 years of service



PSO Scott Radcliff
Effective February 1, 2016
12 years of service

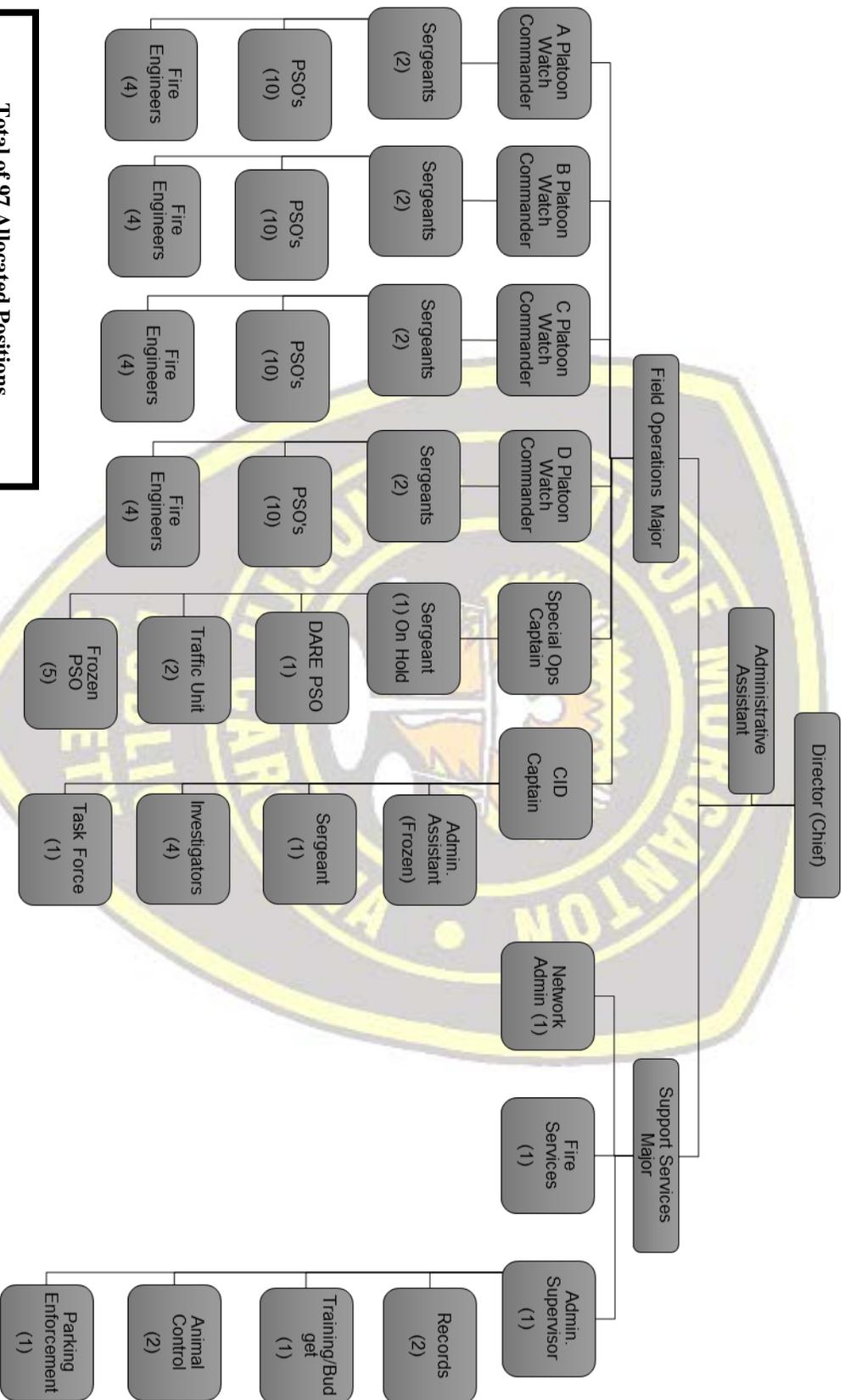
Department Personnel Allocations

January 2017

<u>Department Position</u>	<u>Allocate</u>	<u>Assigned</u>	<u>Frozen</u>	<u>Vacant</u>
Public Safety Chief	*1	*1		
Major	*2	*2		
Captain	*6	*3		*3
Sergeant	*10	*11		
PSO	*51	*40	*5	*5
Engineers	16	15		1
Fire Captain	1	1		
Admin Supervisor	1	1		
Admin Manager	1	1		
Admin Specialist	2	1	1	
Network Admin	1	1		
Customer Serv Rep	2	2		
Parking Enforcement	1	1		
Animal Control	2	2		
<hr style="border-top: 1px dashed black;"/>				
Total Sworn*	*70	*57	*5	*8
Total Civilian	27	25	1	1
GRAND TOTAL	97	82	6	9

* Indicates sworn personnel

Morganton Department of Public Safety



Total of 97 Allocated Positions

1 – Frozen Admin Specialist, 2011
 5 – Frozen: 3 in 2001; 1 in 2010; 1 in 2011

Highlights & Accomplishments

👤 The following promotions took place:

- 👤 **Captain Tony Lowdermilk** promoted to Major/Field Operations
- 👤 **PSO John Suttles** promoted to Sergeant
- 👤 **PSO Ben Carswell** promoted to Sergeant
- 👤 **PSO Aaron Palmer** promoted to Sergeant

👤 The following personnel were recognized for their accomplishments:

- 👤 **Sergeant Tim Corriveau**, Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate
- 👤 **Sergeant Aaron Palmer**, Intermediate Law Enforcement Certificate
- 👤 **PSO Joseph Beaver**, Intermediate Law Enforcement Certificate
- 👤 **PSO Chris Clark**, Intermediate Law Enforcement Certificate
- 👤 **PSO Tony Paterno**, Intermediate Law Enforcement Certificate



Major Ryan Lander successfully completed the *FBI National Academy* at Quantico, VA. The *FBI National Academy* is a professional course of study for U.S. and international law enforcement managers nominated by their agency heads because of demonstrated leadership qualities. The 10-week program provides coursework in intelligence theory, terrorism and terrorist mindsets, management science, law, behavioral science, law enforcement communication, and forensic science and serves to improve the administration of justice in police departments and agencies at home and abroad.



Sergeant Robin Triplett successfully completed the *Administrative Officers Management Program (AOMP)* at N.C. State University. AOMP is a twelve week on-site Management and Leadership Education program designed specifically for Law Enforcement Professionals. This unique educational experience, operated as part of a nationally accredited Public Administration Program, offers participants the opportunity to earn fifteen college credits. AOMP is a continuing education activity of the Public Safety Leadership Initiative (PSLI) in the School of Public and International Affairs (SPIA) in the College of Humanities and Social Sciences (CHASS) at North Carolina State University.

Boards & Committees

- ❖ **Chief Ronnie Rector** – Burke County Homeland Security Taskforce, Burke County Domestic Violence Task Force, Burke Substance Abuse Network, Burke County Communication Technical Advisory Board, Burke County Narcotics Task Force Board of Directors, Downtown Parking Committee, HMF Inc. Board of Directors ex-officio member, member of Advisory Board for Public Safety Leadership Initiative for N.C. State University, Morganton-Burke Crimestoppers, Inc.- Ex officio member

- ❖ **Major Ryan Lander** - Burke County Homeland Security Taskforce, Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

- ❖ **Major Tony Lowdermilk** – Domestic Violence Task Force, Burke County Homeland Security Taskforce, Burke Substance Abuse Network

- ❖ **Captain Keith Bowman** – Burke County United Way, A Caring Alternative and N.C. Coalition Initiative

- ❖ **Captain Jason Whisnant** – Burke Substance Abuse Network, Burke/Catawba Crisis Collaborative

- ❖ **Administrative Supervisor Jason Smith** – City of Morganton Safety Committee

- ❖ **Investigator Kyle Gorforth** – N.C. Gang Investigators member

- ❖ **Investigator Joseph Beaver** – Child Advocacy Center

- ❖ **PSO Jeff Gillstrap** – NC Governors Highway Safety County Coordinator

- ❖ **Administrative Specialist Renee Carswell** – Morganton-Burke Crimestoppers – Treasurer; Burke County Technical Advisory Board - Secretary

Grants

In 2016 Public Safety received and implemented the following grants:

- **Governors Highway Safety Program Traffic Unit Grant**
 - Year 3 of grant providing costs for personnel - value \$119,775
- **Statewide Infrastructure and Technology Improvement Initiative**
 - Virtualization Management for Disaster Recovery - \$21,116
- **Governors Crime Commission grants**
 - Law Enforcement Block Grant: purchased *Internal Affairs* and *Field Training* software modules for our Records Management System - \$22,260
 - Awarded funds to purchase tactical remote device (robot) for use with SWAT call-outs, hostage events, HAZMAT, etc., protecting our personnel - \$24,500



Part 1 Crimes

Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) guidelines track eight “Index Crimes,” known also as Part 1 crimes. The UCR system includes crimes that are most likely to be reported to the police and to occur with sufficient frequency to provide an adequate basis for comparison. Part 1 crimes are further split into two categories, **Violent** and **Property**. Below is analysis of Part 1 crimes reported to Public Safety (*The below percentage change is a comparison of 2015 to 2016*):

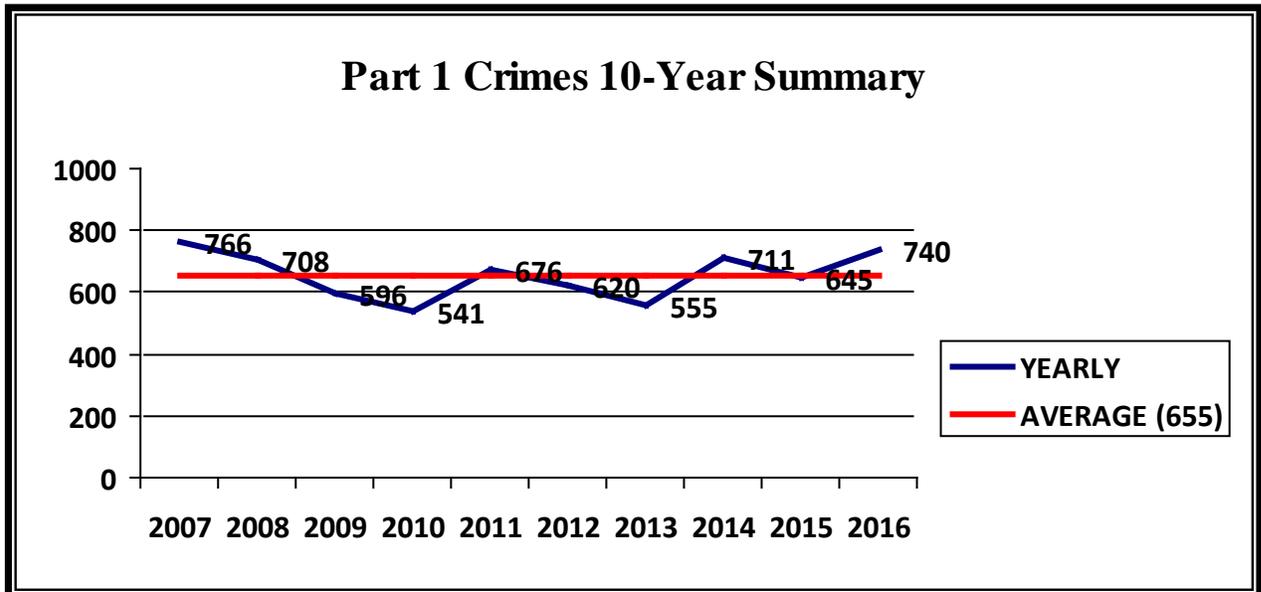
Violent Crimes	2013	2014	2015	2016	% Change
Murder	0	3	1	0	-100%
Forcible Rape	8	6	4	11	64%
Robbery	21	11	16	12	-25%
Aggravated Assault	23	47	56	59	5%
TOTAL	52	67	77	82	6%

Property Crimes	2013	2014	2015	2016	% Change
Burglary	133	149	132	154	14%
Larceny	351	466	413	474	13%
MV Theft	18	18	20	28	29%
Arson	1	11	3	2	-33%
TOTAL	503	604	568	658	14%

2016 Part 1 Summary													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
<i>Murder</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Rape</i>	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	1	5	11
<i>Robbery</i>	1	1	1	2	2	0	0	3	0	0	1	1	12
<i>Assaults</i>	9	2	5	4	3	5	4	6	7	4	4	6	59
<i>Burglary</i>	11	9	11	11	10	13	12	14	15	19	20	9	154
<i>Larceny</i>	29	25	45	31	50	43	29	45	47	52	41	37	474
<i>MV Theft</i>	0	1	4	2	1	0	1	7	5	2	2	3	28
<i>Arson</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
TOTAL	50	38	67	51	66	63	46	76	74	79	69	61	740

Part 1 Crimes Continued

10-YEAR SUMMARY										
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<i>Murder</i>	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	1	0
<i>Rape</i>	3	2	3	4	5	3	8	6	4	11
<i>Robbery</i>	18	12	12	12	6	17	21	11	16	12
<i>Assaults</i>	51	43	31	25	31	32	23	47	56	59
<i>Burglary</i>	179	208	139	127	144	172	133	149	132	154
<i>Larceny</i>	477	420	390	357	461	374	351	466	413	474
<i>MV Theft</i>	33	23	19	13	29	19	18	18	20	28
<i>Arson</i>	3	0	2	3	0	2	1	11	3	2
TOTAL	766	708	596	541	676	620	555	711	645	740



Part 1 Crimes Continued

2016 PART 1 CRIME ARRESTS													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	TOTAL
<i>Murder</i>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Rape</i>	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
<i>Robbery</i>	0	2	2	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
<i>Assaults</i>	10	4	6	10	4	7	7	7	9	15	6	5	90
<i>Burglary</i>	2	4	13	6	5	8	1	8	16	2	3	3	71
<i>Larceny</i>	41	54	49	58	63	62	53	43	53	45	55	40	616
<i>MV Theft</i>	0	1	2	0	0	1	2	4	3	3	1	0	17
<i>Arson</i>	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	4
TOTAL	53	65	74	75	77	78	63	65	81	65	65	48	809

Note: Arrests are higher than incidents due to incidents involving multiple Subjects, warrant service outside jurisdiction, service of warrants for unreported incidents, etc.

Part 1 Crimes Arrests	2013	2014	2015	2016	% Change
Murder	0	3	1	0	-100%
Forcible Rape	2	2	2	3	33%
Robbery	10	5	25	8	-68%
Aggravated Assault	33	30	64	90	29%
Burglary	45	34	47	71	34%
Larceny	259	318	528	616	14%
MV Theft	4	1	9	18	100%
Arson	2	3	3	4	25%
TOTAL	358	396	679	809	16%

The above percentage change is a comparison of 2015 to 2016

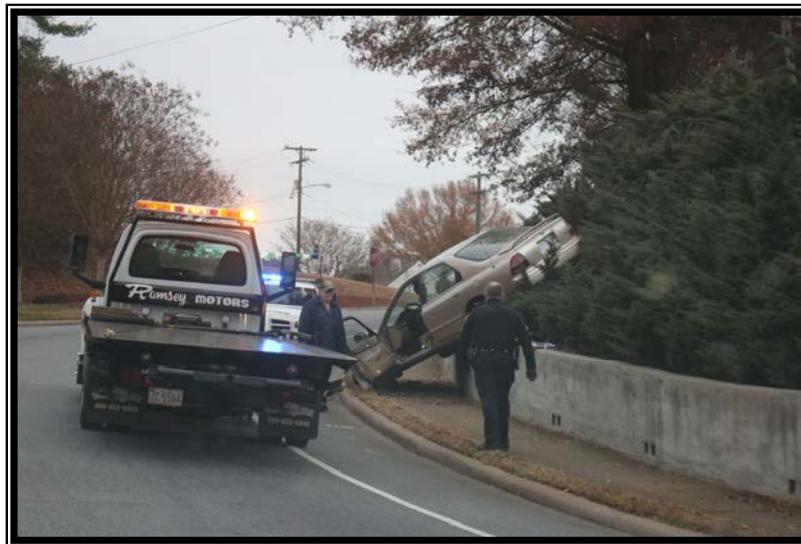
Calls For Service

2016 Top-10 Calls For Service

Calls For Service (125 categories)	2013	2014	2015	2016
Vehicle Stop	6,579	7,905	6,805	7,219
Security Check	822	996	3,157	6,827
911 Hang-up	797	2,218	3,093	3,570
Extra Patrol	486	888	3,187	2,518
Property Damage MVA	1,098	1,079	1,135	1,633
Alarm Activation	1,424	1,568	1,469	1,500
Speak to Officer	713	1,054	1,129	1,397
Follow-Up	*	*	1,212	1,372
Suspicious Person	967	1,124	1,360	1,221
Warrant Service	1,024	980	1,216	844
All other calls for service	9,580	12,434	16,663	16,611
TOTAL	24,486	31,452	40,426	44,712

* Category implemented in 2015

- ♣ The total *Calls For Service* have increased **45%** from four years ago
- ♣ Public Safety responded to an average of *123 Calls For Service* each day (67 per day in 2016) utilizing 12-15 personnel per 12-hour shift



Public Safety Officers responding to a vehicle accident on South Sterling St.

Fire Statistics

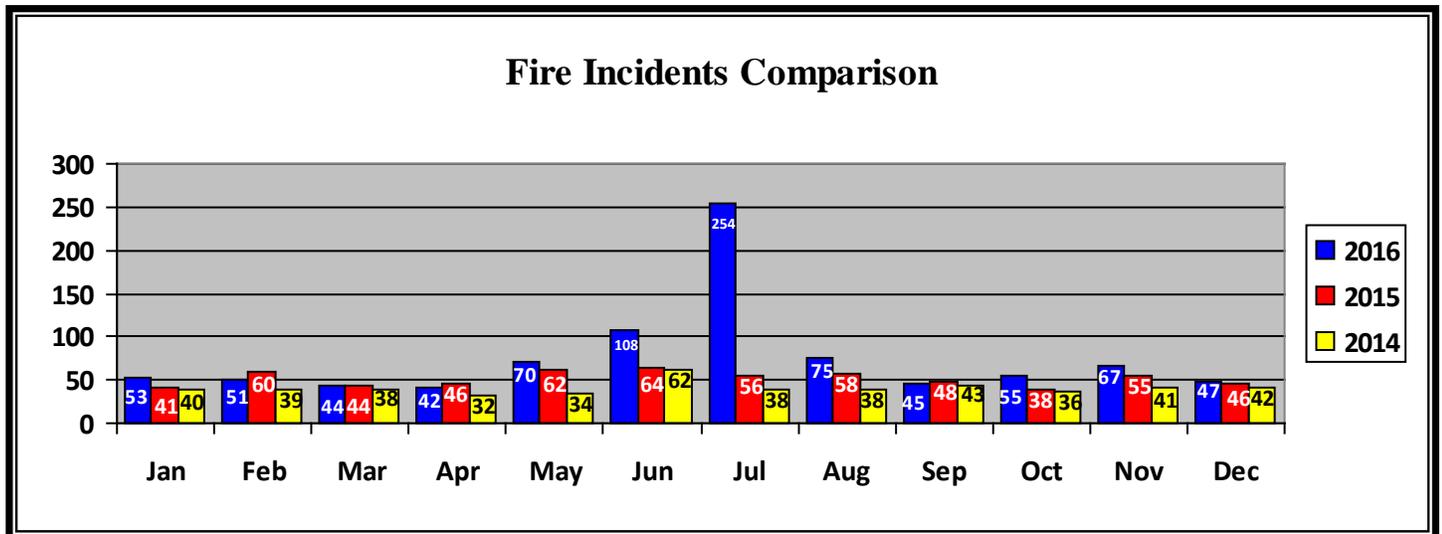
MAJOR INCIDENT FIRE RESPONSE													
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
<i>Number of Calls</i>	53	51	44	42	70	108	254	75	45	55	67	47	911
<i>Property Damage</i>	\$214,651	\$51,000	\$43,500	\$152,000	\$7,020	\$47,000	\$299,157	\$35,000	\$62,750	\$82,520	\$500	\$1,096,868	\$2,091,966
<i>Man Hours Spent</i>	667:50	189:27	296:45	136:55	263:55	286:32	628:25	317:14	196:43	366:00	207:43	173:52	3,728:41



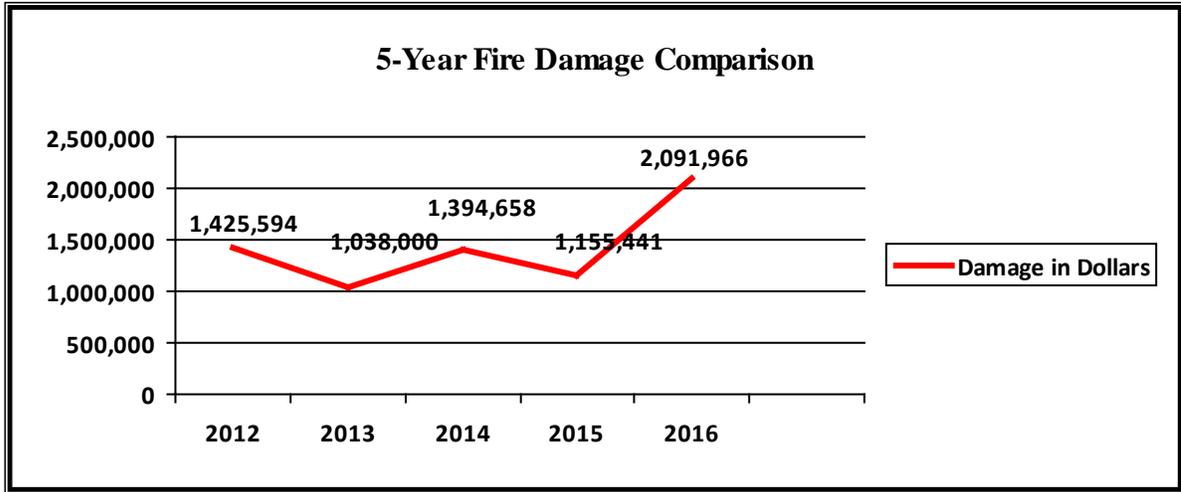
Public Safety personnel working the scene involving an airplane crash



NOTE: Spike in July was due to 27-year-old Cody Stuartt (above) making over 250 false bomb threats in Burke County; later pled guilty and was sentenced to 11-21 years in prison



Fire Statistics Continued



**Public Safety personnel fighting structure fire
at a home on Valley View Street**

Traffic Analysis

5-YEAR SUMMARY – TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS					
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<i>Accidents Reported</i>	1,080	1,142	1,027	1,203	1,200
<i>Number Injured</i>	263	346	252	293	286
<i>Fatalities</i>	3	0	2	2	3
<i>Acc. Arrests/Citations</i>	533	595	655	933	979
<i>Property Damage</i>	\$2,737,624	\$3,136,890	\$2,932,099	\$3,528,638	\$3,518,898

5-YEAR SUMMARY – DWI ARRESTS, CITATIONS					
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
<i>DWI Arrests</i>	299	283	249	211	345
<i>Traffic Citations</i>	4,384	3,342	4,677	4,836	5,378



Public Safety patrol vehicles purchased with grant funds for traffic enforcement

Traffic Analysis continued

Governors Highway Safety Program grant in 2014 funded a 2-person Traffic Unit, below is analysis of their activity for 2016:

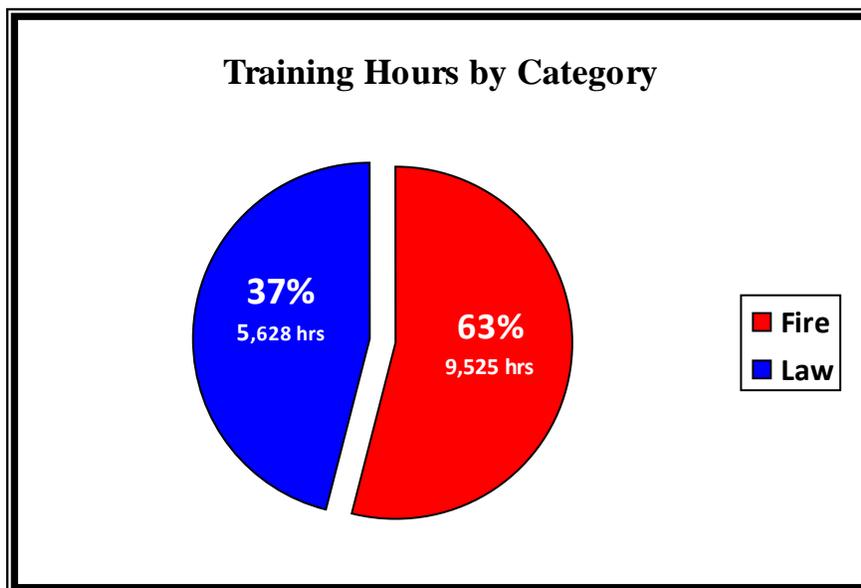
Traffic Unit Data 2016	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
DWI	1	4	6	4	2	7	10	4	6	5	4	5	58
Seat Belt	2	6	3	9	10	19	3	2	0	10	2	1	67
Child Restraint	0	1	0	3	1	2	2	0	0	1	0	0	10
Speed	50	57	47	92	61	106	67	28	32	81	20	41	682
DWLR	14	7	10	22	7	20	13	2	5	16	7	13	136
NOL	2	10	12	23	9	18	13	16	8	12	7	10	140
Motorcycle Permit	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
Helmet Violations	0	1	1	3	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	8
Other Violations	65	62	50	106	46	92	58	35	47	95	80	89	825
Warning Citations	11	20	13	30	11	24	23	15	24	39	28	30	268
Total Traffic Offenses	145	168	142	292	147	290	190	103	122	259	148	189	2195
Total Drug Charges	0	4	11	7	0	12	6	9	7	11	15	14	96
Total Criminal Charges	3	7	14	10	5	13	12	8	10	8	9	12	111
Total Charges	148	179	167	309	152	315	208	120	139	278	172	215	2402
DWI Checking Stations	2	2	2	4	3	0	2	0	2	1	1	0	19
Day Seat Belt Initiatives	1	3	0	2	2	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	13
Night Seat Belt Initiatives	1	3	2	3	2	3	1	0	0	2	0	0	17
License Checks	2	1	8	6	2	5	9	4	2	2	0	0	41
Total Number of Traffic Stops	90	131	144	202	106	209	156	74	84	176	108	122	1602
Fugitives Arrested	2	6	7	4	0	4	2	2	2	5	0	8	42
Injury Crashes	2	6	7	3	4	2	2	3	7	3	6	5	50
PD Crashes	29	21	19	28	15	10	9	13	17	30	20	22	233
Fatal Crashes	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Total Crashes	31	27	26	31	19	12	11	16	24	33	26	27	283
Public Info Presentations	3	2	3	3	7	3	2	5	7	4	2	3	44
Public Info Displays	1	1	3	8	3	3	5	6	7	10	3	5	55
Number of Public Reached	43	45	165	630	890	450	800	930	2075	1290	370	1000	8688

Project Hours Worked	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Enforcement	163.25	212.25	216.5	241	143.75	219	187	112.5	102	224.5	184.5	97.5	2103.75
Training	9	43.5	0	3	92	10	44	72	9	0	24	14.5	321
Court	27	5	22	21	8.5	20	16	10	20	5	15	0	169.5
Crashes	24	22.5	31	26	32.5	15	10.5	13.5	25	20	22	10.5	252.5
Public Info	56.5	15	7	24	23	8	10	72.5	72	27.5	20	16	351.5
Other	28	17	26	3	11	27	25	25	23.5	28	11	34.5	259
Total Hours	307.75	315.25	302.5	318	310.75	299	292.5	305.5	251.5	305	276.5	173	3457.25



Training

Public Safety provides police and fire services for the city and as such we are required to maintain training standards for both disciplines. Below is a summary:



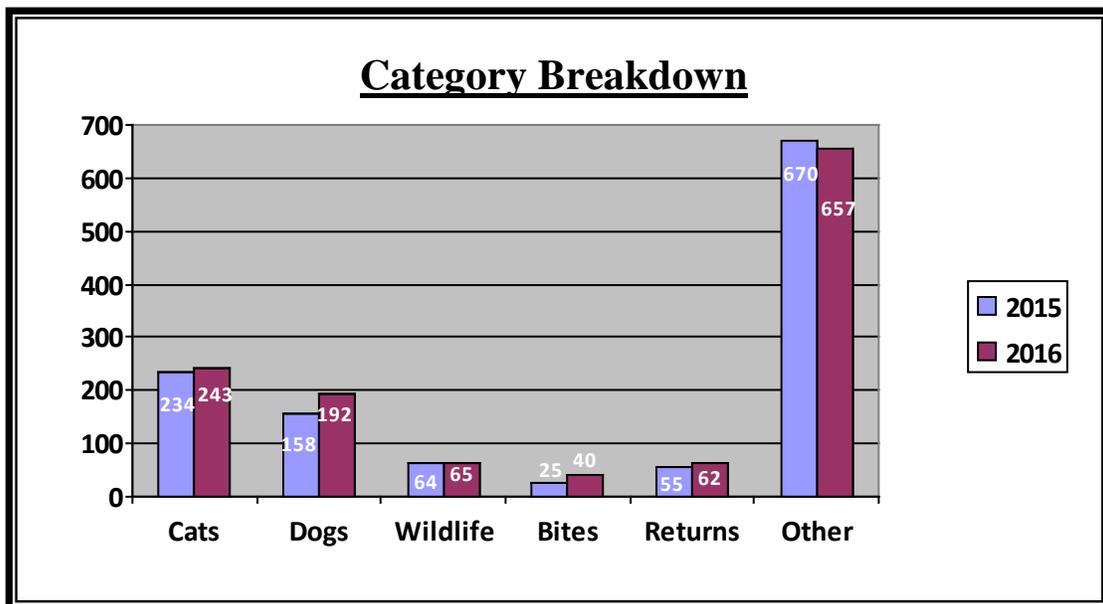
- ☛ Total police-related training for 2016 was 5,628 hours, resulting in each sworn officer (66) averaging 85 hours of training
- ☛ Total fire-related training was 9,525 hours, resulting in each firefighter (90) averaging 106 hours of training for the year
- ☛ Two personnel attended the WPCF Fire Academy at 464 hours each



Parking Enforcement & Animal Control

Parking Enforcement			
	2014	2015	2016
Tickets	460	740	496
Revenues	\$12,417	\$8,664	\$7,860
<u>Parking Permits</u>			
Queen Street Lot	\$1,080	\$1,440	\$1,114
Green Street Lot	\$3,744	\$3,744	\$3,744
Residential	\$25	\$75	\$100

Animal Control			
	2014	2015	2016
<i>Calls for Service</i>	678	1,206	1,259
<i>Citations Issued</i>	66	119	95



Departmental Highlights

Drug Enforcement:

Public Safety is a member of the *Burke County Narcotics Task Force*, whose mission is drug interdiction and enforcement, below is a summary of activity for 2016 (2016 in parentheses):

- 🛡️ Initiated 357 cases (327), resulting in 235 arrests (169) and 160 indictments (98)
- 🛡️ Seizures; \$65,023 in cash (\$60,468), 36 weapons (22), 1 vehicle and \$53,817 in narcotics
- 🛡️ The following are amounts for the major drug categories that were seized:
 - Cocaine: 73 grams
 - Crack: 163 grams
 - Marijuana: 10,268 grams (22.6 lbs.)
 - Methamphetamines: 2,285 grams
 - Liquid Meth.: 922 cc
 - Oxycodone: 264 dosage units
 - Hydrocodone: 183 dosage units

Canine:

Our canine program is comprised of two handlers each assigned to a canine, PSO William Miller assigned to canine Kimo and PSO Stacey Huffman assigned canine Shrek. Canine Units are responsible for apprehension of fleeing suspects, article searches, i.e., finding items suspects may have thrown during a chase, tracking suspects or missing persons, building searches and narcotics detection. Furthermore, they conduct demonstrations in the community and assist surrounding agencies.



- 🛡️ All canines recertified through the *North American Police Working Dog Association*
- 🛡️ Each canine accrued nearly 200 training hours for the year
- 🛡️ Drug Seizures:
 - Marijuana.....3.28 kilos (street value: \$14,333)
 - Methamphetamines... 957 grams (street value: \$105,925)
 - Cocaine/Crack.....121 grams (street value: \$13,695)
 - Herion.....1.86 grams (street value: \$580)
 - Money.....\$22,516
 - Weapons.....11
 - Arrests/Charges.....443
 - Vehicles Searched.....273

Special Weapons And Tactics (SWAT)

Public Safety's SWAT team is comprised of 10 members and is responsible for hostage situations, barricaded persons, sniper incidents, aggravated suicide attempts, high-risk building searches & arrest warrant service, crowd control and other potential life threatening incidents which exceed the routine response of on-duty Public Safety personnel. Criteria for team selection is: one year law enforcement experience, demonstrate ability to conduct oneself calmly & effectively under stressful situations, minimum qualifying score of 94% with each assigned duty weapon, no disciplinary action in past 2 years, display initiative, obligation to the public safety profession, officer's compatibility with current members of the SWAT team, good physical condition and pass the rigorous physical fitness test and final approval is from the Chief. Below are highlights from 2016:



- 8 call-outs which include stand-offs, executing high-risk warrants as well as assisting the Burke County Narcotics Task Force and Burke County Sheriff's Office
- Sgt. Ben Carswell was added to our SWAT in 2016

Special Operations Division:

- ☛ “Coffee With A Cop” is a national event that focuses on connecting community members with Law Enforcement. In 2016, Public Safety hosted this event at ten businesses and has been well received by members in the community. The department has hosted, and received requests, from the following: Pat's Snack Bar, Grace Ridge Retirement Community, The Grind coffee shop, My Local Bakery, Denny's, Allison's restaurant, and more



- ☛ In 2016, our D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program was presented over a 3-month period to 5th graders at the following elementary schools; Mountain Crest, Forest Hill, New Dimensions and home school groups. The D.A.R.E. curriculum uses national research-based educational techniques to teach youth better decision making skills to help them avoid negative influences in life
- ☛ Public Safety's Annual “Blue Elves” toy drive reached over 300 children in the city of Morganton with assistance from The Marine Corps League and Morganton Housing Authority. By forming these partnerships Public Safety was able to facilitate a larger event which included toys, snacks and department-led activities for the youth and parents. Additional toys were donated to The Outreach Center



“Operation Safe Haven” provided a week-long summer camp for rising 6th graders in city schools as a reward for those who successfully completed the D.A.R.E. program and included the following activities:

- Team-building activities with local fire and law enforcement
- Fun Depot in Asheville; games, go-carts and laser tag
- Swimming and canoeing at Lake James State Park
- Carwinds and Boomerang Bay Water Park
- Community service projects, i.e., a Treasure Hunt in downtown Morganton that challenged teams to collect the most amount of trash by weight
- Meals & transportation the entire week
- Awards Banquet with a meal for the children’s families



Traffic Checkpoints:

Public Safety conducted a total of **60** traffic checkpoints during 2016 (six included the state *Blood Alcohol Testing* mobile) at various locations throughout the city resulting in **765** charges, of which **92** involved narcotics and **17** fugitives were apprehended.

Fire Prevention:

Fire Prevention efforts included presentations to more than 1,100 citizens at 18 different events throughout the year. Events were held at local elementary schools, recreation centers and community events and included information on fire prevention and life safety.



Public Safety firefighters presenting Fire Safety to area children

Breast Cancer Awareness

Public Safety showed its support in the fight against breast cancer by designing and selling t-shirts during October's *Breast Cancer Awareness Month* and raising/donating over \$2,500 to Blue Ridge Healthcare Foundation to help fund mammograms for those in need.



Sanctuary Safety Workshop

In an effort to inform and equip local churches in defending against potential active-shooter incidents, Public Safety conducted two “Sanctuary Safety Workshops” in 2016. The primary purpose was to inform and educate attendees about the need for churches to have an Emergency Operations Plan in place prior to an incident occurring and to offer assistance in helping church leadership develop those plans. It was attended by nearly 150 citizens.



N.C. Supreme Court

In May of 2016 the N.C. Supreme Court held two sessions at the Old Burke County Courthouse in Morganton for the first time in over 150 years. The court held its August sessions in Morganton from 1847-1862. Public Safety was privileged to be a part of this historic event.

